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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK73//
TO COMPERT/BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY
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OCTOBER 30, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

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JAPAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT AFRICA: KIMURA WILL VISIT GHANA, NIGERIA, ZAIRE, TANZANIA, AND EGYPT FROM OCTOBER 31 THROUGH NOVEMBER 7. THE PURPOSE IS TO ENUNCIATE JAPAN'S NEW "PRO-AFRICA" POLICY AND TO DEVELOP "GOODWILL" AND "UNDERSTANDING." KIMURA'S MESSAGE WILL INCLUDE THAT JAPAN REEDES UAW POLICIES REGARDING RACISM, ENFORCES ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA AND OTHER MEASURES AGAINST RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA, UNDERSTANDS AFRICAN ATTEMPTS TO "AFRICANIZE" THEIR ECONOMIES TO GAIN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE, AND IS READY TO ENGAGE IN ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION WITH AFRICA. THIS IS THE FIRST TOUR OF SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA BY A JAPANESE MINISTER; IT STEMS PARTLY FROM FEARS JAPAN MIGHT BE A FUTURE TARGET OF AN AFRICAN EMBARGO OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND FROM A DESIRE TO ASSURE ACCESS TO AFRICA'S RESOURCES AND MARKETS. (CHRON)

ANTIGOVERNMENT PLOTTING ON THE RISE IN PERU; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MILITARY PLOTTING AGAINST

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PRESIDENT VELASCO IS BECOMING SERIOUS.

A COUP IS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 31, WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF DISSIDENTS OF THE THREE SERVICES.

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THE AMOUNT OF SUPPORT FOR THE ANTIGOVERNMENT FORCES AMONG THE KEY MODERATE ARMY OFFICERS IS UNCLEAR. HOWEVER, THE LIKELIHOOD OF SOME SORT OF MOVE AGAINST VELASCO, POSSIBLY AN UNSUCCESSFUL ONE, HAS INCREASED AS THE RESULT OF SEVERAL FACTORS.

DURING RECENT MONTHS WE HAVE HAD EVIDENCE THAT DISSIDENT OFFICERS HAVE ENGAGED IN TERRORIST ACTIVITY, SUCH AS BOMBINGS. IN ADDITION TO RECENT HIGHLY PUBLICIZED ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION BY HIGH-LEVEL VELASCO ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, THERE HAS BEEN RISING CONCERN AMONG MODERATES AT THE ACCELERATING PACE OF RADICAL REFORMS ADVOCATED BY THE GOVERNMENT. NEW EVIDENCE THAT VELASCO IS CHANGING ESTABLISHED MILITARY RETIREMENT AND PROMOTION PROCEDURES IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO CAUSE SERIOUS UNREST AMONG SENIOR AND MIDDLE-GRADE OFFICERS. VELASCO REPORTEDLY HAS ALREADY APPROVED MEASURES GIVING THE SERVICE CHIEFS BROAD POWERS TO RETIRE SUMMARILY A LIMITED NUMBER OF TOP OFFICERS IN ANY GIVEN YEAR. AS A RESULT, THE POSSIBILITY OF AN OPEN BREAK BETWEEN RADICAL AND MODERATE OFFICERS HAS GREATLY INCREASED. THE MODERATES ARE SUSPICIOUS VELASCO WANTS TO PLACE OFFICERS SYMPATHETIC TO HIS POLICY DIRECTIONS IN TOP POSITIONS. OFFICERS LOYAL TO VELASCO REMAIN IN CHARGE OF THE IMPORTANT TROOP COMMANDS, MAKING ANY MOVE AGAINST VELASCO AT THIS TIME UNLIKELY TO BE SUCCESSFUL. SUCH A MOVE COULD, HOWEVER, GIVE HIM AN EXCUSE TO CLAMP DOWN ON OPPOSITION AND DISSIDENT ELEMENTS WITHIN THE MILITARY. (LOW)

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MORE ON MEETING BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA, THE IVORY COAST, AND SENEGAL: OUR EMBASSY IN DAKAR REPORTS THAT WHILE SENEGALESE OFFICIALS ARE NOT PRESENTLY WILLING TO CONFIRM OR DENY THE RUMORED THREE-WAY MEETING IN IVORY COAST IN SEPTEMBER, ONE OFFICIAL HAS ADMITTED TO THE AMBASSADOR THAT SENEGAL IS INSTITUTING A NEW DIALOG POLICY TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA. THE MAIN OBJECTIVES WOULD BE TO KEEP SOUTH AFRICA FROM SABOTAGING THE INDEPENDENCE OF MOZAMBIQUE, ANGOLA, AND NAMIBIA; TO DISCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICAN SUPPORT TO RHODESIA; AND TO ENCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICAN COOPERATION AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR NAMIBIA. IN SUCH A POLICY, SENEGAL WOULD QUIETLY MAINTAIN COMMUNICATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND REDUCE PUBLIC PRESSURES ON THE GOVERNMENT THERE.

A SECOND PHASE WOULD BE SYSTEMATIC AFRICA-WIDE PERSUASION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME TO MAKE INTERNAL REFORMS AND ACCELERATE THE ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID.

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ARAB SUMMIT AND NEGOTIATIONS; REPORTING OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS WILL GIVE CLEARER REASONS AS TO WHY THE SYRIAN/PLO POSITION PREVAILED AT THE RABAT SUMMIT; FOR THE MOMENT, THE FOLLOWING POINTS ARE UNDERScoreD BY [REDACTED] DVERT REPORTING;

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- JORDAN HAS BEEN DENIED ULTIMATE CONTROL OF THE WEST BANK BY THE SUMMIT, BUT HAS NOT BEEN EXPLICITLY EXCLUDED FROM A NEGOTIATING ROLE OVER THE FUTURE OF THE WEST BANK IN SETTLEMENT TALKS. THE PRECISE ROLE OF BOTH JORDAN AND THE PLO IN SUCH TALKS HAS NOT BEEN CLARIFIED, AND HAS PROBABLY BEEN LEFT VAGUE DELIBERATELY.
- THE PLO WILL SEEK TO FORM A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE, VERY POSSIBLY BEFORE NEXT WEEK WHEN THE UNGA WILL DEBATE THE PALESTINE ISSUE.
- THE PLO DELEGATION TO THE UN DEBATE WILL PROBABLY BE LED BY ARAFAT. THERE HAS BEEN ONE REPORT THAT HE MAY STAY NO LONGER THAN A DAY IN NEW YORK IN VIEW OF THE SECURITY PROBLEM.

AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN SAIGON: AMBASSADOR MARTIN'S OCTOBER 29 ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN SAIGON CONCLUDES THAT PRESIDENT THIEU'S POSITION HAS BEEN UNAFFECTED BY RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS. HE ASSERTS THAT THESE PROTESTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY A SMALL NUMBER OF POLITICAL RADICALS WHO GAIN A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION, BUT HAVE VERY LITTLE POPULAR SUPPORT. THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS THAT THIEU'S SUPPORT WITHIN THE MILITARY HAS DIMINISHED.

THE AMBASSADOR, HOWEVER, WARNS THAT COMMUNIST PROVOCATEURS MAY BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT THE CURRENT PROBLEMS OF WAR WEARINESS, INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND PERCEIVED AMERICAN DISENGAGEMENT AND TO INCITE VIOLENCE WHICH COULD HAVE SERIOUS RESULTS.

THE AMBASSADOR SAYS THAT IN THIS SITUATION IT IS VITAL THAT WE DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO REVERSE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S.

BACKING ANY OPPOSITION POWER AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, TO RESTORE A REASONABLE LEVEL OF ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE. AMBASSADOR MARTIN MAINTAINS THAT IF WASHINGTON CAN "SUCCESSFULLY MOUNT AN ALL-OUT COORDINATED EFFORT TO OBTAIN THE NEEDED ASSISTANCE, THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF U.S. POLICY GOALS IN SOUTH VIETNAM CAN BE ASSURED."

POSSIBLE OIL FINDS IN BAJA CALIFORNIA: OUR EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL REPORTS THAT EXPLORATORY DRILLING IN BAJA CALIFORNIA INDICATES MAJOR OIL RESERVES. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE BAJA FIND IS "POTENTIALLY LARGER THAN" THE DEPOSITS IN SOUTHERN MEXICO RECENTLY FOUND AND THE SUBJECT OF MUCH PUBLIC ATTENTION RECENTLY.

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IN CONNECTION WITH MEXICO'S EMERGING ROLE AS AN OIL EXPORTER, VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO VISIT MEXICO EARLY NEXT YEAR. HE SAID HE HOPED MEXICO WOULD JOIN OPEC. LIKELY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT SUCH A MEETING WOULD INCLUDE MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S PROPOSAL FOR A LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION, ESTABLISHMENT OF A NON-COMPETITIVE PETROLEUM POLICY, AND PRESIDENT PEREZ' PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE IN 1975. BOTH MEXICO AND VENEZUELA AND THEIR PRESIDENTS ARE PUSHING FOR A LARGER ROLE IN HEMISPHERIC AND WORLD LEADERSHIP.

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